

Unfortunately, the broadcast flag is all about control. It is not about thwarting piracy.

The media distribution companies want nothing less than to control the entire path between the creation of media and the consumers brain. They feel that since they have generated tremendous profits from doing this in the past, they are entitled to continue receiving these profits in the future.

This assumption is not supported by law (yet).

The changing face of technology is quickly rendering these outdated business models obsolete, and the media industry is trying to buy laws and regulations to keep themselves in control of emerging technology rather than adapt to it.

This has a side effect of stifling technological innovation.

Arguments that the "broadcast flag" will stop piracy are as mistaken as the claims that the various copy-protection schemes will stop piracy.

Those that profit from media piracy will always find a way around any copy-protection methods.

Adoption of the "broadcast flag" will deny citizens of their fair use rights under copyright law and allow those in control small portion of our economy (media and entertainment) dictate what can and cannot be done by a much larger portion of our economy (electronics).

Those citizens that choose to exercise fair-use rights would be made criminals for the simple act of copying a show to watch later.

I recommend AGAINST the adoption of broadcast flags.

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